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* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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(58) **Field of Search** 251/331; 137/312

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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10 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

A throttling valve assembly actuated by a stepper motor having a double diaphragm seal and integral throttling surface. The throttling surface interfaces to a mating orifice and port arrangement to provide a smooth control regime for various process fluids. Because of the unique design of the flow paths the fluids will remain in a laminar flow state throughout the throttling range, thus providing smooth and continuous response to the control input. The valve opening to the fluid controlled by a stepper motor through a direct drive mechanism. The embodiment shown here employs all PTFE construction for the wetting parts, but any material could be used that would be compatible with the process fluid. Additional features are minimal capture of the process fluid, free draining, and no metallic parts in close communication with the process fluid.

